to Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries from four Southern States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh and have no contact with their families for the last several months/years;

(b) whether Government have checked that they have joined the Al-Quaeda and Taliban Cadres there and turned terrorists there; and

(c) whether any such persons have been found to be in terrorist groups coming to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) The Government does not have any information in this regard.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Bill pending for clearance

1456.DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal of Government of Karnataka for the Karnataka Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999 is pending for clearance; and

(b) if so, the current status of the proposal and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bill is under examination of Ministry of Home Affairs.

Study conducted regarding harassment of girl students

†1457. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report of Gender Study Group of Delhi University stating that 91.7 per cent girls residing in the hostels are harassed;

(b) if so, the details of the concrete steps taken by Government to check such harassment; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Lack of sophisticated Weapons with police force in Bihar

†1458. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether police force in Bihar has not been successful in dealing with criminals due to lack of sophisticated weapons and other means; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard alongwith its plan for future course of action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) It is primarily the concern of the State Government of Bihar to equip their police forces adequately to tackle criminals etc., since "Police" and "law and order" are State Subjects as per the Constitution of India. However, to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in this regard, the Ministry of Home Affairs has been implementing since 1969-70 a Non-plan Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces on 50:50 cost sharing basis, for which financial assistance is extended for a number of items including weaponry, communication/security, surveillance equipments, vehicles etc. The annual Central allocation was enhanced to Rs. 1000 crore from 2000-01 under the Scheme. During the financial years 2000-01 and 2001-02, against the approved modernisation plans of Rs. 115.17 crore and Rs. 108.00 crore respectively, Central share of Rs. 57.585 crore and Rs. 54.00 crore was released to the Government of Bihar under this Scheme. The State Government has reported utilization of an amount of Rs. 23.001 crore against the approved modernization plan of 2000-01. No utilization against the approved plan of 2001-02 has been reported. For the current financial year, 2002-03, the State Government of Bihar has recently forwarded their modernization plan for Rs. 132.95 crore.

Besides this, under the Scheme for Reimbursement of Security

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.